

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-98 (Canceled)

¹
~~99~~. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising synergistic effective amounts of an anti-diabetic agent other than insulin, a bioavailable source of chromium, and a bioavailable source of vanadium, wherein said anti-diabetic agent is a sulfonylurea, and wherein components of said composition synergistically reduce the HbA1c levels of a patient by at least about 10% after treatment for a period of at least about thirty days with said composition as compared to treatment with said anti-diabetic agent alone.

Claims 100-102 (Canceled)

²
~~103~~. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim ~~99~~¹, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: acetohexamide, chlorpropamide, tolazimide, tolbutamide, glycazide, glipizide, glyburide, or glimeperide.

Claims 104-114 (Canceled)

³
~~115~~. (Currently Amended) A method for improving glucose metabolism, comprising treating a patient for at least about a thirty day period by administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising synergistic effective amounts of an anti-diabetic agent other than insulin, a bioavailable source of chromium, and a bioavailable source of vanadium, wherein said anti-diabetic agent is a sulfonylurea, and wherein said components of said composition synergistically reduce the HbA1c level of said patient by at least about 10% after such treatment as compared to treatment with said anti-diabetic agent alone.

Claims 116-133 (Canceled)

³
~~134~~. (New) The composition of claim ~~99~~¹, wherein said reduction in said Hb1Ac level is at least about 50%.

⁴
~~135~~. (New) The composition of claim ~~99~~¹, wherein said bioavailable source of chromium comprises one or more of chromium picolinate or chromium polynicotinate.

⁵
136. (New) A composition according to claim ⁴135, wherein the bioavailable source of chromium is chromium picolinate and wherein the amount of chromium picolinate is from about 30 µg up to about 1000 µg, per dose.

⁶
137. (New) A composition according to claim ⁴135, wherein the bioavailable source of chromium is chromium polynicotinate and wherein the amount of chromium polynicotinate is from about 30 µg up to about 5000 µg, per dose.

⁷
138. (New) The composition of claim ¹99, wherein said bioavailable source of chromium comprises no less than about 200 micrograms of elemental chromium.

⁸
139. (New) The composition of claim ¹99, wherein said bioavailable source of chromium comprises no less than about 100 micrograms of elemental chromium.

⁹
140. (New) The composition of claim ¹99, wherein said bioavailable source of chromium comprises no less than about 5 micrograms of elemental chromium.

¹⁰
141. (New) The composition of claim ¹99, wherein said bioavailable source of vanadium is vanadyl sulfate.

¹¹
142. (New) The composition of claim ¹⁰141, wherein the amount of vanadyl sulfate is in the range of about 20 mg up to about 100 mg, per dose.

¹²
143. (New) The composition of claim ¹99, wherein said bioavailable source of vanadium comprises more than about 10 mg elemental vanadium.

¹³
144. (New) The composition of claim ¹99, wherein said amount of said bioavailable source of vanadium comprises no less than 5 mg of elemental vanadium.

¹⁴
145. (New) The composition according to claim ¹99, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: acetohexamide, chlorpropamide, tolazimide, or tolbutamide.

¹⁵
146. (New) The composition according to claim ¹99, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: glycazide, glipizide, glyburide, or glimeperide.

¹⁶
147. (New) The composition according to claim ¹99, wherein said sulfonylurea is glyburide.

¹⁷
148. (New) The composition according to claim ¹99, wherein said sulfonylurea is glipizide.

¹⁸
149. (New) The composition according to claim ¹99, wherein said sulfonylurea is glimeperide.

¹⁹
~~150~~. (New) The composition according to claim ⁴~~135~~, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: acetohexamide, chlorpropamide, tolazimide, tolbutamide, glycazide, glipizide, glyburide, or glimeperide.

²⁰
~~151~~. (New) The composition according to claim ¹⁰~~141~~, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: acetohexamide, chlorpropamide, tolazimide, tolbutamide, glycazide, glipizide, glyburide, or glimeperide.

²¹
~~152~~. (New) The composition according to claim ⁴~~135~~, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: acetohexamide, chlorpropamide, tolazimide, or tolbutamide.

²²
~~153~~. (New) The composition according to claim ⁴~~135~~, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: glycazide, glipizide, glyburide, or glimeperide.

²³
~~154~~. (New) The composition according to claim ¹⁰~~141~~, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: acetohexamide, chlorpropamide, tolazimide, or tolbutamide.

²⁴
~~155~~. (New) The composition according to claim ¹⁰~~141~~, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: glycazide, glipizide, glyburide, or glimeperide.

²⁶
~~156~~. (New) The method of claim ²⁵~~115~~, wherein said bioavailable source of chromium comprises no less than about 200 micrograms elemental chromium when said composition is administered on a daily basis.

²⁷
~~157~~. (New) The method of claim ²⁵~~115~~, wherein said bioavailable source of chromium comprises no less than about 5 micrograms of elemental chromium when said composition is administered on a daily basis.

²⁸
~~158~~. (New) The composition of claim ²⁵~~115~~, wherein said bioavailable source of chromium comprises one or more of chromium picolinate or chromium polynicotinate.

²⁹
~~159~~. (New) The method of claim ²⁵~~115~~, wherein said bioavailable source of vanadium comprises at least about 10 mg elemental vanadium when said composition is administered on a daily basis.

³⁰
~~160~~. (New) The method of claim ²⁵~~115~~, wherein said bioavailable source of vanadium is vanadyl sulfate.

³¹
161. (New) The method of claim ²⁵115, wherein said amount of said bioavailable source of vanadium comprises no less than 5 mg of elemental vanadium when said composition is administered on a daily basis.

³²
PK 162. (New) The ^{method}composition according to claim ²⁵115, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: glycazide, glipizide, glyburide, or glimeperide.

³³
PK 163. (New) The ^{method}composition according to claim ²⁵115, wherein said sulfonylurea is one of the following: acetohexamide, chlorpropamide, tolazimide, or tolbutamide.

³⁴
PK 164. (New) The ^{method}composition according to claim ²⁵115, wherein said sulfonylurea is glyburide.

³⁵
PK 165. (New) The ^{method}composition according to claim ²⁵115, wherein said sulfonylurea is glipizide.

³⁶
PK 166. (New) The method of claim ²⁵115, wherein said pharmaceutical composition further comprises a physiologically acceptable carrier.

³⁷
167. (New) The method of claim ²⁵115, wherein said method further comprises monitoring said subject's HbA1c levels.

³⁸
168. (New) The method of claim ²⁵115, wherein said reduction in said Hb1Ac level is at least about 50%.